

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FAA-00 /075 W

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R 301902Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1321

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

COMUSFORAZ

CINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L PONTA DELGADA 0416

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: AZOREAN EVENTS

1. IN SANTA MARIA ABOUT 3,000 PEOPLE DEMONSTRATED IN THE RAIN AGAINST TRANSFERRING FLIGHTS AND SOME AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL FUNCTIONS FROM THE AIRPORT IN SANTA MARIA. SOME TAP FLIGHTS HAVE BEEN SHIFTED FROM SANTA MARIA TO LAJES ON TERCIERA, BUT THERE ARE NO SERIOUS PLANS NOW TO MOVE MOST FLIGHTS AWAY FROM SANTA MARIA. POLITICAL OBSERVERS BELIEVE THE DEMONSTRATION WAS ORGANIZED BY THE PCP AND PS IN AN EFFORT

TO PROMOTE DIVISION BETWEEN THE ISLANDS.

2. IN FAIAL THERE HAVE BEEN THREATS AND RUMORS OF DEMONSTRATIONS. MANY THERE WERE UPSET BECAUSE TWO OF THE COMMUNISTS KICKED OFF THE ISLAND HAVE RETURNED. IN ADDITION THE PS PLANNED A DEMONSTRATION IN SUPPORT FOR THE VI GOVERNMENT AND THE JUNTA REGIONAL, BUT THERE WERE THREATS OF A COUNTER DEMONSTRATION ORGANIZED BY FLA. THE POLICE SAID THEY COULD NOT PROTECT THE PS DEMONSTRATION SO NONE TOOK PLACE. GENERAL MAGALHAES HAS BEEN TRYING TO CALM THE SITUATION AND HAS ASKED TOW KNOWN FLA LEADERS TO COME TO PONTA DELGADA FOR TALKS.

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3. GENERAL MAGALHAES CAUSED CONSIDERABLE STIR IN PONTA DELGADA BY

STROLLING ALL OVER TOWN WITH JOSE FRANCO, GENERALLY CONSIDERED TO BE ONE OF THE TOP FLA LEADERS.

4. ON OCT 30, THE WORKING GROUP FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE AZORES ANNOUNCED THAT MATRICULATION WOULD OPEN THAT DAY IN PONTA DELGADA, ANGRA AND HORTA FOR AN INTENSIVE

PREPARATORY COURSE NEEDED TO ENROLL IN UNIVERSITY STUDIES. THE COURSE ITSELF WILL START IN NOVEMBER IN THE THREE CITIES. IN FEBRUARY THE UNIVERSITY WILL BEGIN COURSES IN 1) TEACHER TRAINING, 2) ACCOUNTING AND ADMINISTRATION AND 3) AGRO-TECHNOLOGY. NOTE: THE WORKING GROUP MUST HAVE SET A WORLD RECORD FOR SPEED IN SETTING UP A UNIVERSITY.

5. AN AZOREAN, BRIGADIER MANUEL AMORIN DE SOUSA MENESES, ARRIVED IN PONTA DELGADA OCT 28 TO ASSUME THE NEWLY CREATED POSITION OF MILITARY COMMANDER FOR THE TERRITORY OF THE AZORES. BRIGADIER MENESES WILL COMMAND ALL ARMY UNITS IN THE AZORES, FORMERLY ONE OF THE DUTIES OF GENERAL MAGALHAES. ACCORDING TO ONE OF THOSE PRESENT, MENESES TOLD JUNTA REGIONAL HE FAVORS AN EXTENSIVE AUTONOMY FOR THE AZORES. HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT IN CASE OF CIVIL WAR OR A COUP FROM THE LEFT OR RIGHT ON THE CONTINENT, HE WOULD BE FOR INDEPENDENCE. IN ADDITION, THE UNPOPULAR POLICE CHIEF IN ANGRA HAS BEEN REPLACED BY AN AZOREAN ARMY OFFICER.

6. COMMENT: THE APPOINTMENT OF MENESES HAS CONVINCED SOME THAT THERE ARE INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN LISBON WORKING FOR THE AZOREAN CAUSE. REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL MEMBER MAJOR CANTO E CASTRO, WHOSE FATHER WAS AZOREAN AND WHO GREW UP HERE, IS ONE WHOSE NAME IS MENTIONED.  
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## Message Attributes

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